

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**

2018 SEP -7 PM 2:14

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The **original** *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
☒ A **copy** of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Education and Society Program)

Travel date(s): Aug. 7-9, 2018

Name of accompanying family member (if any): n/a

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING **DID NOT INCREASE** DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount	\$63.22 Round Trip	\$234.00 for two nights total	\$96.75 (I skipped dinner on the second night because I wasn't feeling well)	\$211.63 (meeting room fees)

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.):

I attended all meetings at the retreat to learn about the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds act. The meetings were a combination of direct instruction by faculty members and discussions among faculty and Congressional staff. I also attended the working lunches and the working dinner on the first night.

09-07-18

(Date)

Amanda Beaumont

(Printed name of traveler)

Amanda Beaumont

(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

09-07-18

(Date)

Patty Murray

(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

Date/Time Stamp:

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220. Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved. This form must be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Amanda Beaumont

Employing Office/Committee: Senate HELP Committee - Minority

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Education and Society Program)

Travel date(s): August 7-9, 2018

Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you must notify the Committee.

Destination(s): Queenstown, MD

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

This conference will explore the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and we will hear from experts who are working on implementation of the law. In my role on the HELP Committee, I am Senator Murray's lead advisor on ESSA implementation issues and therefore this conference directly impacts the work in my policy portfolio.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): n/a

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

07-09-2018
(Date)

Amanda Beaumont
(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Patty Murray hereby authorize Amanda Beaumont
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

07-09-2018
(Date)

Patty Murray
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

Aspen Senior Congressional Education Staff Network Retreat
Implementing ESSA: Accountability Systems and State and District Finance

Wye River Conference Center
600 Aspen Drive
Queenstown, MD 21658
P: 410-827-7400

August 7-9, 2018

AGENDA

Retreat Goals:

- Understand how states are implementing their Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plans and how they will support implementation at different levels of the system;
- Conduct an in-depth review of the operation and implications of states' ESSA accountability systems for identifying and supporting schools;
- Explore how district leaders develop and track budgets in the context of ESSA funding and requirements, including how district budgets connect to the district's overall strategy;
- Engage in active learning and build working relationships with education leaders from the field, as well as with colleagues from different parties and chambers.

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

12:00 PM **Arrival and Check-In**

12:30 – 1:00 PM **Lunch**

1:15 – 1:45 PM **Welcome, Overview, and Retreat Objectives**

To guide the retreat's discussion, Congressional staffers and faculty members will begin by sharing their top learning objectives for the convening.

1:45 – 3:00 PM **Session I: Capacity to Implement ESSA**

Tommy Chang, former Superintendent, Boston Public Schools

Alicia Garcia, Principal Policy Analyst, American Institutes for Research

Jennifer McCormick, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Indiana Department of Education

Guiding Questions:

- *What is the preparedness of states and LEAs to effectively implement ESSA's school and subgroup identification and improvement requirements, including systems, communications, plans, and supports?*
- *How are SEAs and LEAs currently structured and staffed? What, if any, changes are being made in response to ESSA requirements (i.e., school improvement, financial*

transparency requirements, etc.)? Are staffing needs concentrated around the need for new types of expertise or the need for just more staff?

- *How do SEA staff perceive their role? How do federal expectations for SEAs align with those perceptions, and with state and local stakeholders' expectations for SEAs? If not, what challenges does that present?*
- *How are states, LEAs, and the U.S. Department of Education (ED) balancing compliance and monitoring with providing guidance and support? What resources and supports do they need to navigate this shift?*
- *What resources or supports is the U.S. Department of Education (ED) or federally-funded centers currently providing to states and LEAs to help implement ESSA? Are there additional supports that would be helpful, or improvements that can be made to current practice?*

3:00 – 3:15 PM Break and individual reflection

3:15 – 5:15 PM Session II: Digging into District Budgeting from Development to Execution

Marguerite Roza (Director, Edunomics Lab) lead faculty and staff in an exploration of the different ways LEA leaders deploy their funds to schools and how decisions get made about resource tradeoffs. As a group, we will discuss the sources of funding, constraints and opportunities with funding, basic strategies LEA leaders use to divvy up funds across schools, and linkages of funding with LEA strategies and outcomes. We will also explore the flexibilities (or lack thereof) and who is involved in resource allocation decisions.

5:15 – 5:30 PM Taking stock: Staff reflections and feedback to guide remaining discussions

6:30 PM Networking Reception with Expert Faculty

Staffers will have the opportunity to network with participants during the reception.

7:00 – 8:30 PM Working Dinner with Discussion of Earlier Sessions

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

7:30 – 8:30 AM Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 AM Group reflection on Day 1: what thoughts and questions were raised for further discussion?

8:45 – 10:15 AM Session III: Reflecting on District Budgeting

Guiding Questions:

- *How well do LEA leaders understand federal funding formulas, allocations, flexibilities, and programmatic uses of funds? How are tensions and tradeoffs between federal, state, and local funding and requirements resolved?*
- *How are SEA and LEA leaders preparing to report on, utilize, and respond to ESSA's financial reporting requirements? What are the implications for equity?*
- *What lessons can be learned from the initial rollout of the Weighted Student Funding Pilot?*

- *How are SEA and LEA leaders addressing resource reviews as part of schools' improvement plans?*
- *How do LEA leaders understand and take advantage of the transferability authority in ESSA? In addition, how do LEA leaders typically implement the consolidation of funds permitted under schoolwides?*

10:15 – 10:35 AM **Break and individual reflection**

10:35 AM – 11:55 PM **Session IV: Budgeting and Strategy**

This session will include a mix of full-group discussion and an opportunity for faculty and staffers to engage in one-on-one discussions about the implications of our conversations.

Guiding Questions:

- *What processes state and LEA leaders employ for weighing budgetary choices and trade-offs? To what extent do evidence, outcomes, mandates, and links to strategy factor into those decisions?*
- *What are the challenges of integrating federal funds with other sources of funds into a coherent budget? And how are federal funds typically distributed, accounted for, and expended?*
- *How are state and LEA leaders using ESSA's programs and funding (e.g., optional Title II set asides for principals and school leaders, Teacher and School Leader Incentive Program, etc.) to support their broader human capital strategy?*
- *How are SEA and LEA leaders using funds to support school improvement strategies for all identified schools (e.g., braiding local, state, and federal funds, addressing any resource inequities, connecting schools with resources to meet the needs of underperforming, etc.)?*
- *Are states using the optional Title II set aside for principal development? If so, what activities and supports are they planning to offer?*

12:00 – 1:00 PM **Lunch**

1:00 – 3:00 PM **Session V: Deep Dive into State Accountability Systems**

Juan D'Brot (Senior Associate, National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment) will lead staff and faculty through a simulated run of a state's ESSA accountability system and discuss implications for which schools are identified for improvement and what it means for state and LEA capacity, budgeting, and overall strategy.

3:00 – 3:15 PM **Break and individual reflection**

3:15 – 4:30 PM **Session VI: Implications of State Accountability Systems**

Alicia Garcia, Principal Policy Analyst, American Institutes for Research

Jennifer McCormick, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Indiana Department of Education

Guiding Questions:

- *Is the state accountability model coherent and likely to result in the identification of the schools in greatest need of support?*
- *Did the model result in school and subgroup identification along the lines the state plan described?*
- *How does the state system address the validity and reliability of results?*

- *What patterns of school and subgroup identification were observed and how do those compare to expectations?*
- *How does the state's system surface educational inequities? Are there any inequities that are not apparent in the results that might be overlooked?*
- *Is the state's system and its output intelligible/useful to internal stakeholders (e.g., LEA leaders) and external stakeholders (e.g., parents, the public)?*
- *Are SEA and LEA approaches to supporting and improving identified schools appropriate to the actual results of the accountability system?*

6:15 PM Networking Reception with Expert Faculty

Staffers will have the opportunity to network with participants during the reception.

7:00 – 8:30 PM Working Dinner with Discussion of Earlier Sessions

Thursday, August 9, 2018

7:30 – 8:30 AM Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 AM Staff reflections and feedback to guide remaining discussion

8:45 – 10:30 AM Session VII: Pulling It All Together: Making Connections across Priorities

Kim Hendon, Assistant Superintendent, Roanoke City Schools

Erik Johnson, Executive Director of Finance, Denver Public Schools

Jennifer McCormick, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Indiana Department of Education

Guiding Questions:

- *How can state and LEA leaders balance budget development, accountability, and human capital strategy to achieve greater coherence? What resources or expertise do they need?*
- *As state and LEA leaders begin implementing their accountability systems and identifying schools and supporting/improving those schools, what issues do they need to address (i.e., building internal capacity, identifying resources, addressing resources, examining human capital policy and practice, etc.)?*
- *What supports will state and LEA leaders need to navigate these challenges or take advantage of these opportunities?*
- *What are the most important roles for ED as states and LEAs move into accountability system implementation and school identification? Are there ways ED or federally-funded centers can support greater coherence at the state and LEA level?*

10:30 – 10:45 AM Break

10:45 – 11:00 AM Complete Retreat Evaluation

11:00 – 11:30 AM Final Observations from Expert Faculty

11:30 – 12:00 PM Taking Stock: Staff Reflections and Feedback to Guide Next Steps for the Network

12:00 – 1:00 PM Lunch and Adjourn

Aspen Senior Congressional Education Staff Network Retreat

Implementing ESSA: Accountability Systems, State and District Finance, and Human Capital Strategy

**Wye River Conference Center
600 Aspen Drive
Queenstown, MD 21658
Phone: (410) 827-7400**

August 7-9, 2018

Please provide names and titles of ALL Senate Members and employees you are inviting.

The Senate employees invited (listed below) are senior education staff responsible for education issues; they are invited specifically because of their education portfolio to meet with leaders and educational experts from states, districts, research, and support organizations to engage in non-partisan dialogue on the impact of federal policy on different levels of the education system.

SENATE CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

Amanda Beaumont

Minority Deputy Education Policy Director
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions, Ranking Member

Allie Kimmel

Minority Education Policy Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Jake Cornett

Minority Senior Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Mark Laisch

Minority Professional Staff Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Laura Friedel

Majority Clerk
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Kara Marchione

Minority Education Policy Director
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Mike Gentile

Majority Professional Staff Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Bob Moran

Majority Deputy Education Policy Director
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Jenn Hatfield

Majority Education Research Assistant
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Matt Stern

Majority Professional Staff
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Jordan Hynes

Majority Professional Staff Member
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Alex Keenan

Minority Clerk
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

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PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

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1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): _____
 The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Education and Society Program) _____
 2. Description of the trip: Aspen Institute Education and Society program sponsored convening for senior education staffers on the Implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and next steps.
 3. Dates of travel: August 7-9, 2018
 4. Place of travel: Queenstown, MD
 5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Please see attached roster
 6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:
 - ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
 - OR –
 - ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
 7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
 - AND –
 - ☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
 8. I *certify* that:
 - ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
 - AND –
 - ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

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☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

The Aspen Institute is the sole sponsor of this retreat and is solely responsible for the development and execution of the convening. (see continued response)

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies non-profit organization whose mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and provide a non-partisan forum for the exchange of ideas.

The Aspen Institute has a nearly forty year history of conducting non-partisan educational forums, which often include Members of Congress and staff. The Aspen Institute Education and Society program has been conducting convenings for Congressional education staff for eleven years.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

The Aspen Institute holds numerous educational activities, including educational briefings, roundtables, forums, and conferences for a diverse range of attendees including federal and state policymakers, business and organizational leaders, members of the press and the general (see continued response)

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	\$68.22(round trip mileage and tolls)	\$234.00 for two nights total	\$132.75	\$211.63 meeting room fees (includes meeting facilities, set up/take down, cleaning, meeting materials)

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b) The trip is organized specifically with regard to Congressional staff participation in order to support their learning on implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The location is close to Washington, DC for easy staffer travel and allows faculty members (external experts brought in to support the retreat) to fly into DCA, Dulles or BWI and travel easily to the facility.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Wye River Conference Center, 600 Aspen Drive, Queenstown, MD 21658

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The meeting location has sufficient meeting space and lodging to support off-the-record, non-partisan exchanges of ideas and professional learning.

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21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Rooms are \$117.00 per day, which reflects the per diem limit

Meals are 8/7/18 \$36.75 per day, 8/8/18 \$69.00 per day, 8/9/18, \$27.00 per day, which reflects the per

diem limit

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Transportation is not provided; mileage will be reimbursed for participants' travel by personal car

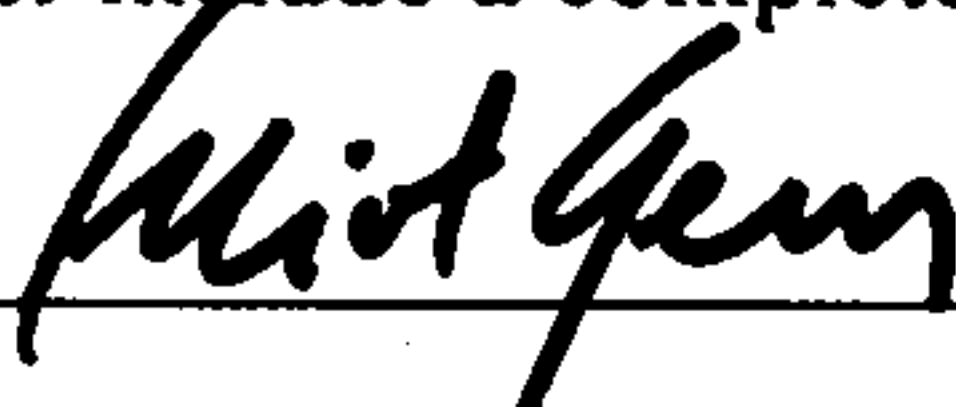
23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor:



Name and Title: Elliot Gerson, Executive Vice President, Policy & Public Programs

Name of Organization: The Aspen Institute

Address: 2300 N Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20037

Telephone Number: 202-736-5859 (Lisa Jones, Deputy General Counsel)

Fax Number: 202-467-0790

E-mail Address: lisa.jones@aspeninst.org

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PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
SIGNATURE PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SPONSOR
(to be completed by each additional sponsor)

I hereby *certify* that the information contained on pages 1-4 of the certification form and any accompanying addenda, all submitted in connection with the _____ trip
to _____ is true, complete, and correct.
Dates of Travel (Month Day, Year)
Place of Travel

Signature of Travel Sponsor: _____

Name and Title: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Aspen Institute Senior Congressional Education Staff Network Retreat, August 7-9, 2018

Questions 13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to the mission (response continued) – The Aspen Institute Education and Society Program seeks to provide a neutral forum to aid education policymakers in their efforts to improve K-12 public education. The purpose of the trip is to conduct a non-partisan educational retreat that encourages off-the-record, candid exchanges of ideas to support staffers' learning.

Question 15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips) (response continued) – The Aspen Institute organizes numerous educational activities, including educational briefings, roundtables, forums and conferences for a diverse range of attendees including federal and state policymakers, business and organizational leaders, members of the press and the general public. The Aspen Institute Education and Society Program works with federal, state and local education leaders to improve K-12 student achievement, particularly for underserved students.

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